



**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application of:**

Sherwood et. al.

**Serial No.:** 10/715,050

**Filed:** November 17, 2003

**For:** CUTTING ELEMENT RETENTION  
APPARATUS FOR USE IN STEEL BODY  
ROTARY DRILL BITS, STEEL BODY  
ROTARY DRILL BITS SO EQUIPPED,  
AND METHODS OF MANUFACTURE  
AND REPAIR THEREFOR

**Confirmation No.:** Unknown

**Examiner:** Unknown

**Group Art Unit:** Unknown

**Attorney Docket No.:** 1684-6040US

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

February 10, 2004  
Date

Leah J. Barrow  
Signature

Leah J. Barrow  
Name (Type/Print)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application on the merits, entry of the amendments as set forth herein is respectfully solicited.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Abstract** appear on page 14 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing which begins on page 15 of this paper.

**Serial No. 10/715,050**

**Amendments to the Drawings** appear on page 23 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

**Remarks** begin on page 24 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 24 of this paper.